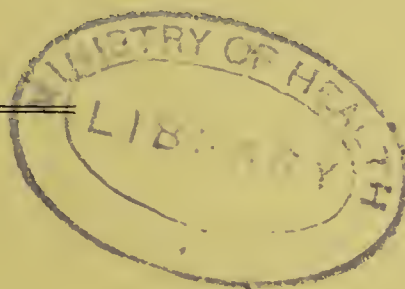


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ST. NEOTS  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



THE  
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE  
Medical Officer of Health

and

Surveyor & Chief Sanitary  
Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1952



**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1952**  
by  
**M. M. MARKHAM, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M.,**  
**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

---

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my third Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the District.

Your obedient servant,

M. M. MARKHAM.

**STAFF.**

**Medical Officer of Health.**

M. M. MARKHAM, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M.

**Chief Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor and Water Engineer.**

M. FAWCETT, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I.

(Tel. St. Neots 402/3 and Buckden 282).

**Additional Sanitary Inspector and Assistant Surveyor.**

G. O. MARCH, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.

(Tel. Kimbolton 303).

**Water Superintendent.**

S. G. ERRIDGE (Tel. Kimbolton 348).

**STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.**

Area : 52,559 acres (approximately 81 square miles).

Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1952 : 2,333.

Rateable Value of the District : £30,137.

Value of a Penny Rate : £118.

Estimated Population (Mid 1951) : 7,838.

Estimated Population (Mid 1952) : 7,635.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

## LIVE BIRTHS

	M.	F.	Total		
Legitimate ...	56	57	113	Birth-rate per 1,000 estimated	
Illegitimate	2	2	4	population ...	15.3
				(Ditto for England and Wales)	15.3
Total ...	58	59	117		

## STILL BIRTHS

	M.	F.	Total		
Legitimate ...	1	1	2	Rate per 1,000 estimated	
Illegitimate	—	—	—	population ...	0.26
				(Ditto for England and Wales)	0.35
Total ...	1	1	2		

## DEATH (ALL AGES)

48	34	82	Death-rate per 1,000 esti-	
			mated population ...	10.7
			(Ditto for England and Wales)	11.3

## DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR

	M.	F.	Total
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—
Legitimate ...	4	1	5
Total ...	4	1	5

## DEATH RATES OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR

All infants per 1,000 live births ...	42.7
(Ditto for England and Wales) ...	27.6
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	44.2
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	—

## CAUSES OF DEATH

(Registrar-General's List)							
List No.	Cause					Male	Female
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	2	—
2	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...	—	—
3	Syphilitic	...	...	...	...	1	—
4	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	—	—
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—	—
8	Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	—	2
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	1	—

11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	4	—
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	—	4
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	—	1
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms				4	1
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	—	—
16	Diabetes	...	...	...	—	—
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...		7	9
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	5	1
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...		1	—
20	Other heart disease	...	...	...	2	7
21	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	1	2
22	Influenza	...	...	...	1	—
23	Pneumonia	...	...	...	1	—
24	Bronchitis	...	...	...	1	—
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...		—	—
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...		—	—
27	Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea	...	...		—	1
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	1	1
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	2	—
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...		—	—
31	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	—	—
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...			12	5
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	1	—
34	All other accidents	...	...	...	1	—
35	Suicide	...	...	...	—	—
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	...		—	—
						<hr/>
	Total all causes	...	...	...	48	34

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

### (a) Laboratory Facilities.

The following Laboratory Facilities have been available to this authority and to General Practitioners in the area :

Public Health Laboratory Service, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge. Tel. Cambridge 55526.

Public Analyst (S. Greenburgh, Ph.D., B.Sc., F.I.C.), Tennison Road, Cambridge. Tel. Cambridge 2097.

**(b) Ambulance Services.**

- (i) Ambulances administered by the County Ambulance Service, operating in conjunction with the County Fire Service, have been available on doctor's orders (Tel. Huntingdon 348).
- (ii) An ambulance stationed at Huntingdon Isolation Hospital has been available for cases of infectious disease (Tel. Huntingdon 59).

**(c) Home Nursing.**

Nurse-midwives employed and supervised by the Huntingdon County Council carried out Home Nursing and attended Maternity Cases in the District :—

- (i) A nurse residing in Great Staughton (Tel. Kimbolton 271), attended cases in Kimbolton, Great Staughton, Grafham, Perry, Tilbrook, Dillington and Hail Weston.
- (ii) A nurse residing in Eltisley (Tel. Croxton 210), attended cases in Gt. Paxton, The Offords, Toseland, Yelling, Great Gransden, Waresley and Abbotsley.
- (iii) A nurse residing in Brampton (Tel. Huntingdon 336), attended in Buckden, Diddington and Southoe.
- (iv) A nurse residing in Catworth (Tel. Bythorn 217), attended in Catworth and Covington.
- (v) Little Paxton was attended by a nurse living in St. Neots (Tel. St. Neots 215).

**(d) Clinics and Treatment Centres.**

(I) The following Health Services, provided by the Huntingdon County Council, were available :—

<i>Clinic</i>	<i>Patients seen</i>	<i>When held</i>	<i>Where held</i>
Minor Ailments	Schoolchildren	1st Thursday in month, 10—11.30 a.m.	Liberal Club, St. Neots.
		1st Friday in month, 10.30—11.30 a.m.	Village Hall, Gt. Staughton.
		Every Monday, 9.30—10.30 a.m.	Old Grammar School, Huntingdon.
Infant Welfare	Children 0—5 years	Every Wednesday and Thursday, 2—4 p.m.	Liberal Club, St. Neots.
		3rd Monday in month, 2—4 p.m.	Mandeville Hall, Kimbolton.
		3rd Tuesday in month, 2—4 p.m.	Methodist School- room, Buckden.
		1st Friday in month, 2—4 p.m.	Village Hall, Gt. Staughton.
		3rd Monday in month, 2—4 p.m.	Reading Room, Great Gransden.
Dental	Pre-School and Schoolchildren	1st Thursday in month, 10 a.m.—12 noon, 2—2.30 p.m.	Red Cross Room, High Street, St. Neots.



Pre-Natal and Nursing Mothers	Every Wednesday (except 2nd in month), and every Saturday, 10 a.m.—12 noon (by appointment)	Princes Street, Huntingdon.
-------------------------------------	--	--------------------------------

(II) The following Health Services are the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board but administered on an agency basis by the Huntingdon County Council:—

<i>Clinic</i>	<i>Patients seen</i>	<i>When held</i>	<i>Where held</i>
Ophthalmic	Pre-School and Schoolchildren	1st and 3rd Fridays in month (by appointment, except in emergency), 10 a.m.—12 noon, 2—4 p.m.	Old Grammar School, Huntingdon.
Orthopaedic	do.	2nd and 4th Tuesdays in month (by appointment), 10 a.m. —12 noon.	do.

(III) The following Health Services were provided by the Regional Hospital Board:—

<i>Clinic</i>	<i>Patients seen</i>	<i>When held</i>	<i>Where held</i>
Chest	All ages	Every Thursday, 10 a.m.—12 noon.	County Hospital, Huntingdon.
Venereal Diseases	All cases	Mondays, 3—7 p.m. Wednesdays, 4—6.30 p.m.	Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.
		Males: Mondays, 5.30 p.m. Thursdays, 5.30 p.m.	28, Fitzwilliam Street, Peterborough.
		Females: Wednesdays, 5.30 p.m. Fridays, 10.30 a.m.	

Medical, Surgical, Orthopaedic, Paediatric, Skin, Obstetrical, Gynaecological and Dental Out-Patient Clinics are held at Huntingdon County Hospital and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, to which General Practitioners can refer their patients for specialist investigation.

#### (e) Hospital Services.

**Fever:**—Huntingdon Isolation Hospital provides facilities for the investigation and treatment of infectious diseases.

**General Hospital Services** were provided by the County Hospital, Huntingdon, and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

**Maternity Cases** were admitted to Paxton Park Maternity Home, St. Neots.

**CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.**

				Total Cases Notified
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	12
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	19
Diphtheria	...	...	...	—
Measles	...	...	...	8
Acute Pneumonia	...	...	...	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	5
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	—
Erysipelas	...	...	...	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—

**DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.**

AGE at date of final injection (as regards A) or of reinforcing injection (as regards B). AGE at 31.12.52 (as regards C).

	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5 to 9	10 to 14	Total
A. Number of Children who completed a full course of Primary Immunisation during the year ended 31st December, 1952 ...	30	45	4	—	3	14	8	104
B. Number of Children who received a Secondary (Reinforcing Injection (i.e. subsequently to primary immunisation at an earlier age) during the year ended 31st December, 1952 ...	—	—	—	—	7	32	7	46
C. Number of Children at 31st December, 1952, who had completed a course of Immunisation at any time before that date (i.e. at any time since 1st January, 1938)	3	73	77	90	83	396	314	1,036



**TUBERCULOSIS.**

Total number on register at 31st December, 1952 :

Pulmonary: 22

Non-Pulmonary: 18

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory M.	Respiratory F.	Non-Res. M.	Non-Res. F.	Respiratory M.	Respiratory F.	Non-Res. M.	Non-Res. F.
0 ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
10 ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15 ... ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 ... ..	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
35 ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 ... ..	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
55 ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
65 & upwards ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	5	3	2	1	1	1	—	—

No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, in connection with persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which deals with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

**REPORT OF SURVEYOR AND CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR  
YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1952.**

**WATER SUPPLY**

During the year the mains extension from Catworth to Little Catworth was started, and approval was received for the cross-country trunk main from Red Hill to Southoe, Midloe and Hail Weston. Approval was also received to the laying of collecting drains to improve the yield of the well at Diddington. It is hoped to start upon these schemes early in 1953.

The Council will have one of the best water supply systems in the country when completed, bearing in mind that the district covers about 81 square miles and the population is less than 8,000. The cost per head of population is bound to be much higher than in Urban areas, but the rate burden involved is, in my opinion, amply justified by the services given.

Over 600 Poplar trees have been planted on the area of land adjacent to the Gt. Staughton Reservoir, and good use has now, therefore, been made of land which previously was derelict.

Arrangements are now being made to supply water to outlying parts of Godmanchester Borough from a new water main which the Council propose to lay from their Offord Booster Station to Waterloo Farm.

Byelaws under Section 17 of the Water Act, 1945, have still not yet been adopted largely on account of negotiations between the Ministry and the British Waterworks Association regarding BSS. 1010.

As stated in the report for 1951, almost all the houses in the area are now connected to the water mains except in certain isolated areas. 53 houses were connected to the water mains during 1952 as a result of informal or formal action, and the water supply was extended inside 17 houses from outside standpipes.

#### MAIN PIPED SUPPLIES

<i>Source of Supply</i>	<i>Parishes Supplied</i>	<i>Daily Consumption</i>
(a) South Cambs. R.D.C. ...	Abbotsley, Waresley, Gt. Gransden, Tetworth, and part of Eynesbury Hardwicke.	18,750 galls.
(b) Raunds U.D.C.	Kimbolton, Covington, Catworth, Tilbrook and Stow.	46,400 galls.
(c) Diddington (St. Neots R.D.C.)	Buckden, Diddington, Grafham, Southoe, Lt. Paxton, Hail Weston, Offords, Gt. Paxton, Toseland and Yelling.	74,750 galls. (includes Polish Camp).
(d) Staughton Moor (St. Neots R.D.C.)	Gt. Staughton and Perry.	21,000 galls. (includes H.M. Borstal Institution.
(e) St. Neots U.D.C.	St. Neots Rural and Eynesbury Hardwicke.	Not known.

2,112 Properties are now supplied with mains water and the estimated daily average per head is 24 gallons. The unmetered supply averages 16 gallons per head per day.

ANNUAL RAINFALL at Gt. Gransden Hall: 25.80 inches.

#### BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS ON RAW WATER

Ten satisfactory samples were obtained from Diddington well. Samples of the treated water taken at the same time were in every case entirely satisfactory. All samples from Staughton Moor supply are raw in that this supply receives no treatment.

#### BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS ON TREATED WATER

All samples during the year were satisfactory:—

South Cambs. R.D.C. : 10 samples; Raunds U.D.C. : 10 samples; Diddington : 10 samples; Staughton : 10 samples. Total 40.

#### PARTICULARS OF ANY CHEMICAL ANALYSES

Three chemical samples were obtained from the Buckden Scheme and all were satisfactory; one sample had been in contact with copper pipes all night, but there was no evidence of cuprosolvency. One sample from each of the other three schemes was also satisfactory.

#### WELLS

New wells sunk: Nil. Wells cleansed and repaired: 2. Wells closed as polluted: 3. Number of samples obtained for analysis found to be satisfactory: 14; unsatisfactory: 9. Action taken: Main Water substituted for unsatisfactory well supplies. Any insufficiency: No.

COUNTY OF HUNTINGDON

REPORT ON WATER SUPPLY FOR THE ST. NEOTS RURAL DISTRICT FOR THE YEAR 1952

Estimated No of Dwellings supplied.

Estimated Population supplied.

Name of Town Village or Parish	Source of Supply, Wells, etc.	Sufficiency or Otherwise	Quality of Water	Analyses of In- dividual Supplies Satisfactory, Un- satisfactory, or none	Analyses No. of such	Direct from Main Supply	By Stand-pipes	By public or private wells	Direct from Main Supply	By Stand-pipes	By public or private wells	
Abbotsley	Public Main	Suff.	Satis.	Private sup- plies only	—	64	31	2	203	55	6	
Buckden	"	"	"	6 Unsat. 9 Sat.	15	240	60	53	730	170	120	
Catworth	"	"	"	Nil	—	45	42	6	180	121	17	
Covington	"	"	"	"	—	18	10	3	69	40	9	
Diddington	"	"	"	"	—	33	3	15	115 (a)	11	50	
Eynesbury	U.D.C. & R.D.C.	"	"	"	—	24	2	7	106	6	27	
Hardwick	Mains and wells	"	"	"	—	62	8	—	176	24	—	
Grafham	Public Main	"	"	"	—	111	34	18	275	90	30	
Great Gransden	"	"	"	"	—	104	5	1	289	15	3	
Great Paxton	"	"	"	"	—	173	65	22	609 (b)	130	50	
Gt. Staughton	"	"	"	1 Sat.	2	77	14	10	221	35	30	
Hail Weston	"	"	"	Nil	—	235	43	3	862 (c)	130	7	
Kimbolton	"	"	"	1 Unsat.	1	53	9	10	175	25	30	
Little Paxton	"	"	"	2 Sat.	2	85	12	11	193	31	26	
Offord Cluny	"	"	"	Nil	—	70	17	9	202	50	26	
Offord Darcy	"	"	"	"	—	39	31	13	115	83	38	
Southoe and Midloe	"	"	"	1 Sat. 1 Unsat.	2	20	—	—	68	—	—	
St. Neots Rural	U.D.C. Mains and wells	"	"	Nil	—	28	4	—	100	18	—	
Stow	Public Main	"	"	"	—	7	6	19	20	18	50	
Tetworth	Biggleswade Water Board, South Cambs. R.D.C. and Wells	"	"	Sat. Nil	1	54	20	3	144	55	8	
Tilbrook	Public Mains	"	"	"	—	17	23	2	62	70	6	
Toseland	"	"	"	"	—	39	9	10	123	30	30	
Waresley	"	"	"	"	—	51	15	4	148	40	16	
Yelling	"	"	"	"	—	23	1649	463	221	5185	1247	579

Notes—

(a) Does not include Polish School which varies up to 700 persons.

(b) Includes H.M. Borstal Institution at Gaynes Hall.

(c) Includes Kimbolton School Boarders.

## SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

I regret that it is not possible to report any progress with post-war sewerage schemes in spite of deputations to the Ministry and correspondence. The increase in use of the water supplies now available and a general tendency towards water-borne sanitation is aggravating the urgency of these schemes, particularly in the larger villages, and it is distressing to note that although the Ministry enquiry was held into the Buckden and Offord Scheme in December, 1951, the Ministry are unable at present to authorise the scheme to start. The provisions of the Rivers Pollution Prevention Act, 1951, cannot be complied with throughout the Country generally, due apparently to financial considerations. All sanitarians welcome the idea behind this Act but are frustrated in their endeavours to implement same.

13 piped sewers and 4 open ditches received attention during the year, along with the cleansing of the Kimbolton sewerage tanks. Sewerage works on the Council's old housing sites are regularly dealt with by the Council's Cesspool Emptier, as one afternoon per week is set aside for this work.

46 private cesspools and 74 Council cesspools or sewerage tanks were cleansed during the year.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse collection and nightsoil collection throughout the district as outlined in the 1947 report continue to operate efficiently. Few complaints are received concerning this service which, of course, is one of the most expensive in an area of this nature. The cost of emptying each dustbin is approximately 9d., and each pail closet about 7d. These costs are, of course, higher than would be expected in a town, but I think no reasonable person would rather deal with his own bin or pail.

During the year tipping facilities have been granted to St. Neots U.D.C. at Little Paxton as they were unable to obtain a suitable site in their own area, and there is plenty of accommodation at Little Paxton. A fire on the Stonely tip was dealt with by trenching and the Fire Brigade.

## SALVAGE

The following salvage was collected during the year:—

Waste paper, rags and lead: Total weight 9 tons 7 cwts. Value £60 10s. 0d.

As it has been difficult to dispose of waste paper at a satisfactory price, no further special effort has been made, and all the above has been collected by the workmen during refuse collection operations.

## PETROLEUM STORAGE LICENCES

Six new applications were received during the year, making 43 on the Register.

## MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

There is no increase in the number of sites licensed, and this remains at 7. Four improvements to conditions were made.



One site licensed for six moveable dwellings is a great credit to the owner and, in my opinion, could be used as a model for other persons intending such developments. This site is ideally situated on the banks of the river and was previously a dumping ground for junk.

#### COUNCIL HOUSE MAINTENANCE

798 inspections were made and 343 orders were issued for repairs. There is an increasing demand from the tenants of the old Council houses for the installation of approved types of heating appliances, and a further 16 such appliances were installed during the year. A contract has been let for the installation of hot water supplies in 15 pre-war houses to supply existing bathrooms and kitchens.

The sale of Council houses was considered, but for the time being no houses are to be sold.

#### BUILDING LICENCES

31 licences were issued during 1952.

#### NEW BUILDINGS

99 plans of new buildings or alterations were deposited. One plan was rejected on account of unsatisfactory drainage and absence of lavatory accommodation. 391 visits were paid to works in progress.

#### MILK AND DAIRIES

11 retailers are registered with the Council as all other dealers are producers also and therefore under the Ministry of Agriculture. Eight inspections of premises were carried out. Six supplementary licences for T.T., seven for pasteurised and one for sterilised milk were issued.

#### FOOD INSPECTIONS

A little progress has been made during the year in the inspection of food premises under the new Byelaws and the Food and Drugs Act, 1938; 40 inspections were made for this purpose and 21 premises are now registered under Section 14 of the Act.

1,286 lbs. of food was condemned as unfit for consumption, and this was chiefly tinned ham, meat, fruit, fish, vegetables and 24 sheep carcasses. These sheep were condemned for phosphorus poisoning after the ingestion of weed-killer.

#### SLAUGHTERMEN'S LICENCES

There is no change in the position, but one new licence was issued and eight existing licences renewed for casual slaughtering.

**PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.**  
**REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER, 1952.**

		Type of Property				
		Local Authority (1)	Dwelling Houses (2)	Agricultural (3)	All other (including business premises) (4)	Total (5)
I.	Total number of properties in Local Authority's District (Notes 1 and 2) ... ..	20	1983	350	167	2520
II.	Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1952 as a result of (a) notification, (b) survey or otherwise (Notes 1, 2 and 3) ... ..	(a) — (b) 6	26 32	5 12	5 12	36 62
III.	Number of properties inspected (see Section II) which were found to be infested by rats (Notes 1, 2 and 3) ... ..	Major 1 Minor 4	1 37	6 8	— 12	8 61
IV.	Number of properties inspected (see Section II) which were found to be seriously infested by mice (Notes 1, 2 and 3) ...	—	—	—	3	3
V.	Number of infested properties (see Sections III & IV) treated by the Local Authority (Notes 1, 2 and 3) ... ..	5	38	14	15	72
VI.	Number of notices served under Section 4:					
	(1) Treatment ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
	(2) Structural Works (i.e. Proofing) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
VII.	Number of cases in which default action was taken by the Local Authority following the issue of a notice under Section 4	—	—	—	—	—
VIII.	Legal Proceedings (see overleaf)	—	—	—	—	—
IX.	Number of "block" control schemes carried out ... ..	3				

NOTES.

Note 1—

- (a) With the exception of agricultural properties, a property means one which is entered separately in the Valuation Roll for the area. (b) Only properties devoted to agricultural or horticultural production, in respect of which returns are made under the Agriculture Act, 1947, should be entered as agricultural properties.



## Note 2—

- (a) Council houses should be entered in Column (2).
- (b) Premises used by the Local Authority for the purposes of trade should be entered in Column (4).
- (c) Sewers should not be included.
- (d) Combined dwelling and business premises, where occupied by the same person, should be regarded as business premises and should be entered in Column (4). Where the dwelling and business parts of the premises are in separate occupation, separate entries should be made in Columns (2) and (4).

## Note 3—

For the purpose of completing Sections II, III, IV and V, each property should be entered *once only* in respect of inspections, infestations or treatments.

1,000 rat bodies were found and 3,700 rats were destroyed according to the amount of poison taken.

All the above figures relate to the Rural area only, but the Operator also covers St. Neots Urban District.

## NEW HOUSING

The number of new Council houses built is as follows :—

Parish	Completed during year	Under construction	Total built since 1945
Abbotsley ... ..	4	—	12
Buckden ... ..	—	—	30
Gt. Gransden ... ..	2	8	16
Gt. Staughton ... ..	2	8	16
Gt. Paxton ... ..	—	8	16
Kimbolton ... ..	—	8	6
Offord Darey ... ..	—	—	4
Offord Cluny ... ..	12	—	30
Stow Longa ... ..	—	—	4
Tilbrook ... ..	—	—	8
Yelling ... ..	—	8	6
Grafham ... ..	—	—	6
Hail Weston ... ..	9	—	23
Little Paxton ... ..	—	—	4
Southoe ... ..	—	—	4
Covington ... ..	—	—	2
	29	40	187

In addition the Council own 20 Ministry of Works prefabs. and 12 converted hutments—these latter are shortly to be closed and demolished and the site re-used for permanent houses.

Ten new private enterprise houses were completed during the year, and one additional house was provided by conversion.

## HOUSING INSPECTION

A limited start has been made with dealing with unfit houses under the Housing Act, 1936, and during the year nine houses were dealt with formally, usually at the time the house became empty due to the rehousing of the tenants. In certain parishes the rehousing of homeless families is virtually completed, and the chief problem remaining is that of dealing with houses incapable of repair, but the drawback is that many tenants of these houses do not desire a Council house owing to the great difference in rents; the older inhabitants in particular are against moving out of houses they have occupied for many years. Defects of an urgent character are usually dealt with under the Public Health Act, 1936.

The Council also assist persons by loans for the acquisition and repair of houses under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Act, and the Housing Acts. In addition improvement grants are also made under the 1949 Housing Act, and grants covering three houses were made during the year.

## 1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—

## HOUSING TABLE.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	235
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... ..	355
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consoli- dated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... ..	—
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... ..	—
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	11
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	203
2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices : Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of in- formal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... ..	49
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—	
(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ..	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners ... ..	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... ..	—
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	29

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners ... ..	13
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... ..	—
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..	2
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	Nil
(3) Undertakings to make fit accepted ... ..	7
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ..	2
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... ..	—
4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV.—Overcrowding.	
(a) (1) Number of dwelling overcrowded at the end of the year ...	3
(2) Number of families dwelling therein ... ..	3
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein ... ..	18½
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ...	1
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ...	1
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases ... ..	5
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... ..	—
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report ... ..	—

## SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE :—

Total Number of notices served ... ..	42
Informal ... ..	29
Formal ... ..	13
Total number of notices complied with ... ..	61
Informal ... ..	49
Formal ... ..	12
Work in default ... ..	Nil

## ANALYSIS OF INSPECTIONS MADE :—

Housing ... ..	185
Council House Maintenance ... ..	798
Houses, etc. Under P.H. Act, 1936 ... ..	170

Houses, etc. Under P.H. Act, 1936, re-visits ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	76
Supervising erection of new buildings ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	391
Sewers and Sewage Disposal ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	161
Post-War Housing ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	178
Civil Defence ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
Dairies ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Bakehouses ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Drains Tested ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	68
Infectious Disease ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Rooms Disinfected ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Ice Cream Premises ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Vermin ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Water Supply (samples taken bact. 73 chem. 6)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	803
Scavenging ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	67
Food Premises ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Rats and Mice ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	56
Building Licences ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Salvage ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Miscellaneous ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	73
Moveable Dwellings ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Factories ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Outworkers ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Interviews ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	589
Housing Applications ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Overcrowding ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Petroleum ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Total Defects Remedied or Nuisances abated ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	296

## CLOSET ACCOMMODATION, ETC.

Number of houses with pail or tub closets in area (est.) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,425
Number of houses with W.C.'s in area (est.) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	908
Number of pails reconstructed as W.C.'s in 1952 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Number of new additional W.C.'s provided at existing property ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Number of W.C.'s constructed in 1952 for new premises ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Number of new pails provided ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Number of new dustbins provided ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Total number on Register (including bakehouse) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	61
Number of inspections ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Number in which defects remedied (2 found) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Bakehouses, number on Register ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Number in which defects remedied ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Number of notices served ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Number of notices complied with ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2



